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that they "Take Paris or die", who in October 1916, looked upon himself as the one outstanding personage capable of freeing the world, who in August, 1915, felt his heart filled with gratitude that God was with him

ABRAHAM LINCOLN WALKS AT MIDNIGHT

(In Springfield, Illinois)

By VACHEL LINDSAY

It is portentous, and a thing of state
That here at midnight, in our little town
A mourning figure walks, and will not rest,
Near the old court-house pacing up and down,

Or by his homestead, or in shadowed yards
He lingers where his children used to play,
Or through the market, on the well-worn stones
He stalks until the dawn-stars burn away.

A bronzed, lank man! His suit of ancient black,
A famous high top-hat and plain worn shawl
Make him the quaint great figure that men love,
The prairie-lawyer, master of us all.

He cannot sleep upon his hillside now.
He is among us:—as in times before!
And we who toss and lie awake for long
Breathe deep, and start, to see him pass the door.

His head is bowed. He thinks on men and kings.
Yea, when the sick world cries, how can he sleep?

Too many peasants fight, they know not why,
Too many homesteads in black terror weep.

The sins of all the war-lords burn his heart.
He sees the dreadnaughts scouring every main.
He carries on his shawl-wrapped shoulders now
The bitterness, the folly and the pain.

He cannot rest until a spirit-dawn
Shall come; — the shining hope of Europe free:

The league of sober folk, the Workers' Earth,
Bringing long peace to Cornland, Alp and Sea.

It breaks his heart that kings must murder still,
That all his hours of travail here for men
Seem yet in vain. And who will bring white peace

That he may sleep upon his hill again?

and spoke of "the people's kingdom of the Hohenzollerns", who associated himself through a quarter of a century as well-nigh co-equal with God, is now an undignified, voluntary exile and of little account even in Germany.

November 5 Secretary Lansing, speaking for the President, notified the German government that it must go to Marshal Foch for the terms of the armistice. November 11 the armistice was signed. The same day the German foreign secretary addressed a message to Mr. Lansing begging that President Wilson intervene to mitigate the "fearful conditions" existing in Germany. The Germany of Bismarck and William II is no more. "The war thus comes to an end."

If we turn, as we naturally may, to the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-1 for comparison, we find that seven months passed between the diplomatic failure of M. Thiers to induce England, Austria, Russia and Italy to intervene, followed by his request to Bismarck that he agree to an armistice, and the signing of the treaty of peace. During those seven months following the Waterloo of the Second Empire at Sedan in the first days of September, 1870, matters went from bad to worse in France, as indeed they may in Germany. The Paris Revolution, the investment of that city, Strasbourg, Orleans, Soissons, Metz, William I made emperor at Versailles, the defeat of the French before Paris and the capitulation of the city, that was the order. In the meanwhile an armistice for negotiation had been declared and extended from time to time. Preliminary peace terms were signed February 26, 1871. The Paris Commune, with its terrifying losses, preceded the end. While the first proposal for an armistice was made in October, 1870, not until the 18th of the following May was the treaty of peace, concluded May 10, ratified by the French Assembly. How far that turbulent period is to be reproduced at this time remains to be seen. Some of it has been reproduced. As we refused to negotiate with an irresponsible Germany prior to the armistice, so Bismarck refused to negotiate with an unstable France. The surrender of Bulgaria, Turkey and Austria-Hungary eliminated the prolonged negotiations which marked the period prior to the armistice in those days. The overwhelming might arrayed against the Germans, especially since the surrender of their fleet and large sections of their empire, makes a prolongation and discussion such as took place then, indeed, as marked still more the Congress of Vienna in 1814-15, now improbable.

Germany is defeated, the war is over. These two sentences, though then contrary to fact, electrified the world November 7. When four days later, namely November 11, men and women were officially informed at last of the surrender, they broke into spontaneous gladness and singing around the world. No such celebration ever took place before. The joy was as real as it was exuberant. The killing was over. Fathers looked upon their sons and saw in their young eyes a